

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 07376 01 OF 02 081039Z

15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01

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O R 081027Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2354

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07376

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, NATO, GW, UK, FR, UR, US

SUBJECT: QUADRIpartite DINNER AT OTTAWA MINISTERIAL

REF: BONN 7152

SUMMARY: BRITISH ARE CONTENT TO ACCEPT TRUDEAU JUNE 17 INVITATION AND HOLD QUAD DINNER ON JUNE 18; GERMANS ANXIOUS TO ASSURE THAT A QUAD DINNER BE HELD IN JUNE AND HAVE PROPOSED AN APPROACH TO CANADIANS. END SUMMARY.

1. UK REP (CROMARTIE) REPORTED AT MAY 6 BONN GROUP MEETING HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON QUAD DINNER, NOTING THAT FONMIN CALLAGHAN HAD SPECIFICALLY APPROVED THEM. UK DOES NOT WANT TO EVEN APPROACH CANADIANS TO SUGGEST CHANGE OF DATE IN TRUDEAU'S DINNER BUT, ON BASIS OF SPECIAL NATURE OF THIS MINISTERIAL AS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, BRITISH ARE CONTENT TO MOVE QUAD SESSION TO, PREFERABLY, JUNE 18, OR TO AFTERNOON MEETING ON JUNE 17. BRITISH WOULD, HOWEVER, CONSIDER THIS A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION TO QUAD DINNER TRADITION. REGARDING
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PAGE 02 BONN 07376 01 OF 02 081039Z

COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMANY, UK VIEW IS

THAT THERE ARE NO INSURMOUNTABLE PROBLEMS.

2. FRENCH (PAYE) AND FRG (LUECKING) REPS EXPRESSED DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT AND UNHAPPINESS OVER BRITISH POSITION, BOTH RESTATING THEIR COMMON VIEW THAT QUAD DINNER SHOULD BE HELD AS USUAL ON EVE OF MINISTERIAL, AND U.S. REP NOTED THAT U.S. POSITION WAS TO SUPPORT PLAN FOR DINNER TO BE HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRADITION. PAYE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT POSITION OF UK - AS HOST - WOULD HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED. REGARDING ALTERNATIVES OF AFTERNOON JUNE 17 OR EVENING JUNE 18 FOR QUAD SESSION, PAYE SAID HE THOUGHT THE AFTERNOON OF 17TH WOULD NOT FOR "TECHNICAL REASONS" BE POSSIBLE, BUT LUECKING SAID HE FEARED THE 18TH WOULD BE PREEMPTED BY TRADITIONAL LARGE DINNER OF MINISTERIAL WHICH WOULD BE HELD REGARDLESS OF TRUDEAU DINNER.

3. FRG FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL SUBSEQUENTLY (EVENING MAY 6) CALLED UK AMBASSADOR HENDERSON TO EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER UK POSITION AND TO REITERATE FRG FEAR THAT JUNE 18 NOT A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR QUAD DINNER. THE RESULT OF THIS CONVERSATION WAS AN APPARENT ARRANGEMENT UNDER WHICH THE BRITISH EMBASSY HERE WOULD AGREE TO RECOMMEND TO LONDON THAT UK SUPPORT MILD APPROACH TO CANADIANS WHICH WOULD BE MADE IN NATO CONTEXT. CONSEQUENTLY, AT SPECIAL BONN GROUP MEETING MAY 7, LUECKING MADE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL, WHICH ALL REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO AUTHORITIES, ON UNDERSTANDING THAT FRG NATO PERM REP WOULD MAKE APPROACH TO CANADIANS, SPEAKING FOR THE FOUR. CANADIAN NATO PERM REP WOULD BE TOLD:

(A) IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO FOREGO TRADITIONAL QUAD

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PAGE 01 BONN 07376 02 OF 02 081037Z

12

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07376

DINNER SINCE THE FONMINS OF THE FOUR HAVE IMPORTANT
POLICY MATTERS REGARDING BERLIN TO CONSIDER;

(B) IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE THAT QUAD DINNER TAKE
PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRADITION ON THE EVE OF THE NATO
MINISTERIAL;

(C) IN THE EVENT PM TRUDEAU DESIRES TO MAINTAIN
HIS INVITATION FOR JUNE 17, THE QUAD DINNER WOULD BE HELD
ON JUNE 18.

4. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT
MAJOR FRG AIM AT THIS POINT IS TO ASSURE THAT QUAD DINNER
WILL, IN FACT, TAKE PLACE IN CONNECTION JUNE NATO
MINISTERIAL. AS INDICATED ABOVE, FRG IS NOT VERY
SANGUINE THAT JUNE 18 WILL WORK OUT BUT ARE SEEKING BY
THEIR PROPOSAL TO FORCE THE ISSUE THROUGH TO SOME KIND OF
AGREED SOLUTION. ON UNDERSTANDING THAT FRG NATO PERM REP
WILL MAKE APPROACH TO CANADIANS, WE RECOMMEND THAT
DEPARTMENT AGREE TO FRG PROPOSAL. ON CONTINGENCY BASIS,
WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S THINKING ON POSSIBIL-
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PAGE 02 BONN 07376 02 OF 02 081037Z

ITY OF AFTERNOON MEETING JUNE 17.
HILLENBRAND

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